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PCT

To:

HAHN, Peter K. SIKORSKI, EDWARD H
600 West Broadway, Suite 2600
San Diego
California 92101
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF
THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
OR THE DECLARATION

(PCT Rule 44.1)

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 26/04/2000	
Applicant's or agent's file reference 27676-2/P11	FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraphs 1 and 4 below
International application No. PCT/US 99/28914	International filing date (day/month/year) 06/12/1999
Applicant ARMSTRONG, Brad, A.	

1. ☒ The applicant is hereby notified that the International Search Report has been established and is transmitted herewith.

Filing of amendments and statement under Article 19:

The applicant is entitled, if he so wishes, to amend the claims of the International Application (see Rule 46):

When? The time limit for filing such amendments is normally 2 months from the date of transmittal of the International Search Report; however, for more details, see the notes on the accompanying sheet.

Where? Directly to the International Bureau of WIPO
34, chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland
Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35

For more detailed instructions, see the notes on the accompanying sheet.

2. ☐ The applicant is hereby notified that no International Search Report will be established and that the declaration under Article 17(2)(a) to that effect is transmitted herewith.

3. ☐ With regard to the protest against payment of (an) additional fee(s) under Rule 40.2, the applicant is notified that:

☐ the protest together with the decision thereon has been transmitted to the International Bureau together with the applicant's request to forward the texts of both the protest and the decision thereon to the designated Offices.

☐ no decision has been made yet on the protest; the applicant will be notified as soon as a decision is made.


4. **Further action(s):** The applicant is reminded of the following:

Shortly after 18 months from the priority date, the international application will be published by the International Bureau. If the applicant wishes to avoid or postpone publication, a notice of withdrawal of the international application, or of the priority claim, must reach the International Bureau as provided in Rules 90bis.1 and 90bis.3, respectively, before the completion of the technical preparations for international publication.

Within 19 months from the priority date, a demand for international preliminary examination must be filed if the applicant wishes to postpone the entry into the national phase until 30 months from the priority date (in some Offices even later).

Within 20 months from the priority date, the applicant must perform the prescribed acts for entry into the national phase before all designated Offices which have not been elected in the demand or in a later election within 19 months from the priority date or could not be elected because they are not bound by Chapter II.

Name and mailing address of the International Searching Authority

 European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL-2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Mareike Zambuto

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 27676-2/P11	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/US 99/ 28914	International filing date (day/month/year) 06/12/1999	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 29/06/1998
Applicant ARMSTRONG, Brad, A.		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 4 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

b. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

☐ contained in the international application in written form.

☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.

☐ the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.

☐ the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2. ☐ Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box I).

3. ☐ Unity of invention is lacking (see Box II).

4. With regard to the title,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the abstract,

☐ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☒ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No.

☐ as suggested by the applicant.

☒ because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☐ because this figure better characterizes the invention.

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☐ None of the figures.

please change into:

A sensor comprising a housing, two highly conductive elements (12,14) fixed in-part exposed external of the housing. A resilient dome-cap (16) is positioned within the housing. A depressible actuator (18) is movably retained by the housing with a portion thereof external of the housing to be accessible for depressive force to be applied thereto. Pressure-sensitive variable conductance material (30) is contained within the housing and electronically positioned in a current flow path between the two conductive elements. Depression of the actuator causes tactile sensation indicating actuation of the sensor, and transferring force through the dome-cap into the pressure-sensitive variable-conductance material for providing variable electrical flow between the two conductive elements.

PCT/US99/28914

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 H03K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 315 204 A (PARK KYUNG T) ✓ 24 May 1994 (1994-05-24)	1,2,5,6, 8,9,11
Y	column 5, line 37 -column 7, line 18; figure 2A	3,4,7,10
Y	US 5 440 237 A (BROWN DANIEL R ET AL) ✓ 8 August 1995 (1995-08-08)	3
A	column 6, line 12 - line 63; figure 1	1,4,5,7, 9-11
Y	EP 0 579 448 A (TEXAS INSTRUMENTS INC) ✓ 19 January 1994 (1994-01-19)	4,7,10
A	US 4 224 602 A (ANDERSON RICHARD W ET AL) ✓ 23 September 1980 (1980-09-23)	1,4,5,7, 9-11
	column 2, line 66 -column 3, line 61 claim 8	
	--- -/-	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- "&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

18 April 2000

Date of mailing of the international search report

26/04/2000

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

D/L PINTA BALLE..., L

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>US 5 565 891 A (ARMSTRONG BRAD A) ✓ 15 October 1996 (1996-10-15) cited in the application column 7, line 64 -column 8, line 30; figure 6</p> <p>-----</p> <p>PCT/usa99/28914</p>	1,4,5,7, 9-11

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5315204 ✓	A	24-05-1994	CA 2038894 A ✓	17-10-1991
US 5440237 ✓	A	08-08-1995	WO 9428387 CA ✓	08-12-1994
EP 0579448 ✓	A	19-01-1994	US 5280926 A ✓	25-01-1994
			DE 69306678 D ✓	30-01-1997
			DE 69306678 T ✓	30-04-1997
			JP 6058419 A ✓	01-03-1994
US 4224602 ✓	A	23-09-1980	NONE	
US 5565891 ✓	A	15-10-1996	US 5589828 A ✓	31-12-1996
			WO 9318475 A ✓	16-09-1993